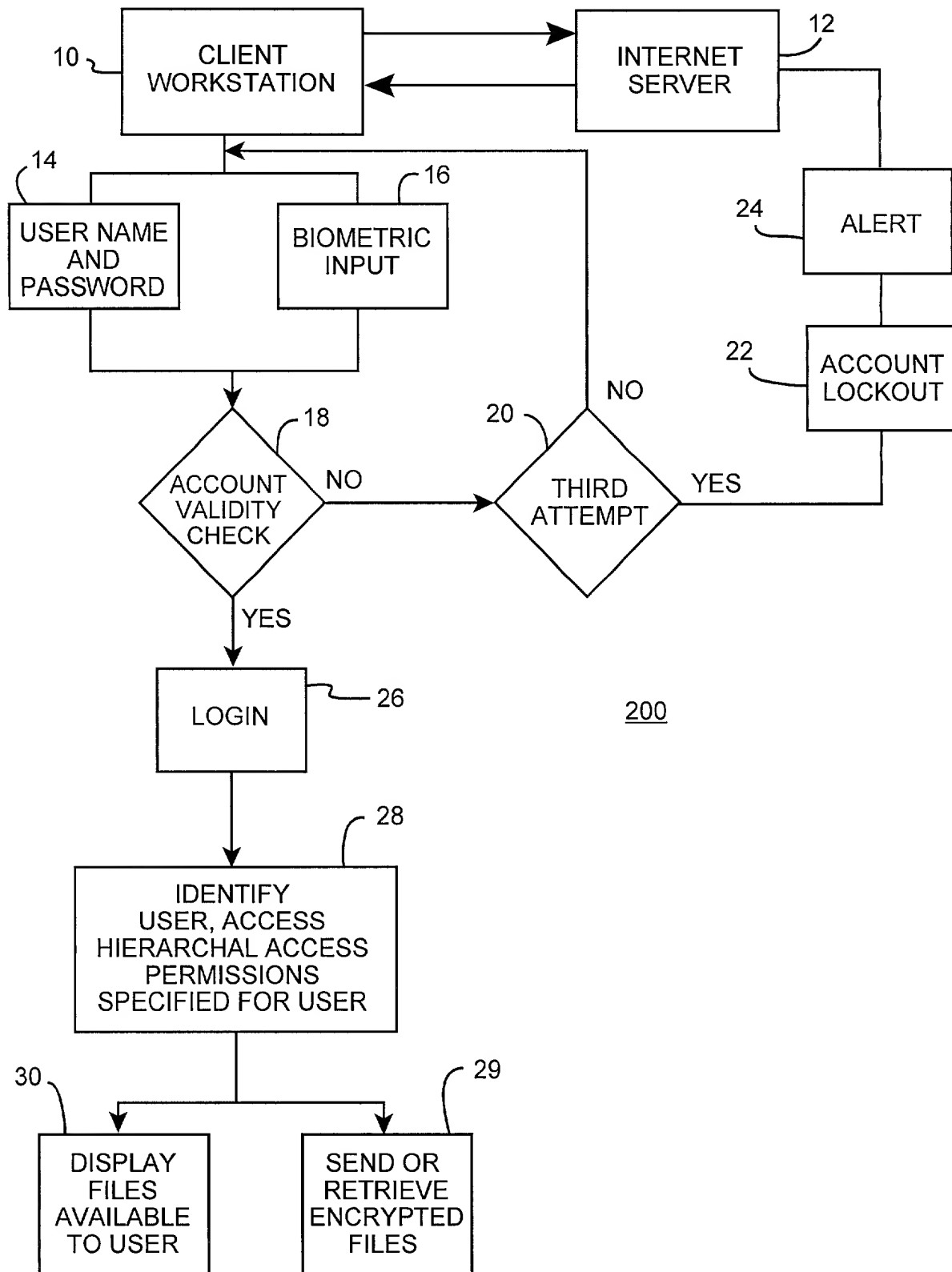
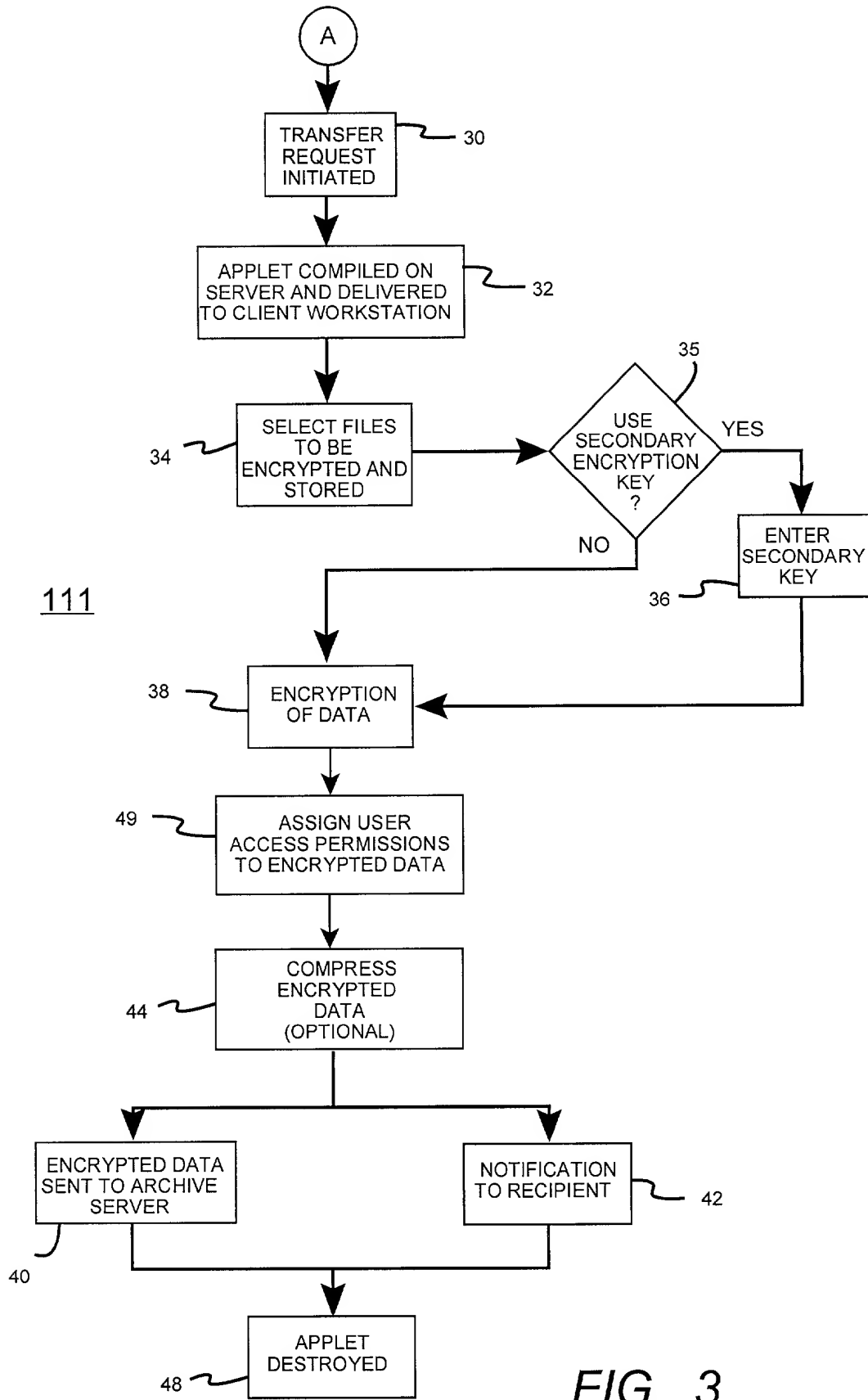


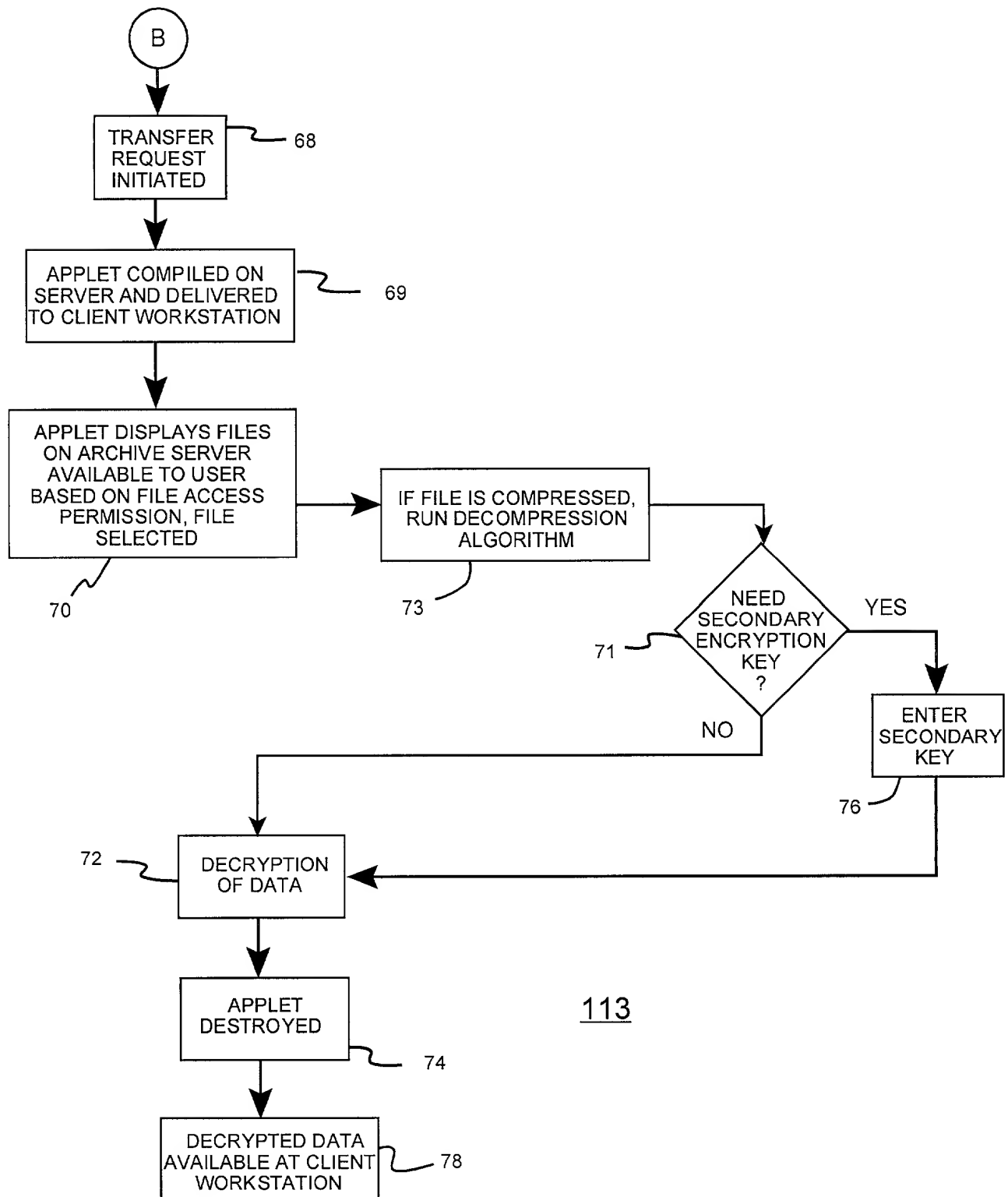
**FIG. 1**



**FIG. 2**



**FIG. 3**



**FIG. 4**

FIG. 5 is a diagram illustrating a hierarchical access control system. The system is divided into four levels of access, labeled ACCESS LEVEL 1 through ACCESS LEVEL 4. Each level contains a set of binary-coded access rights. The system is managed by three user groups: USER GROUP 1, USER GROUP 2, and USER GROUP 3. Arrows indicate the flow of access rights from the user groups to the corresponding access levels. A reference numeral 50 points to the entire structure.

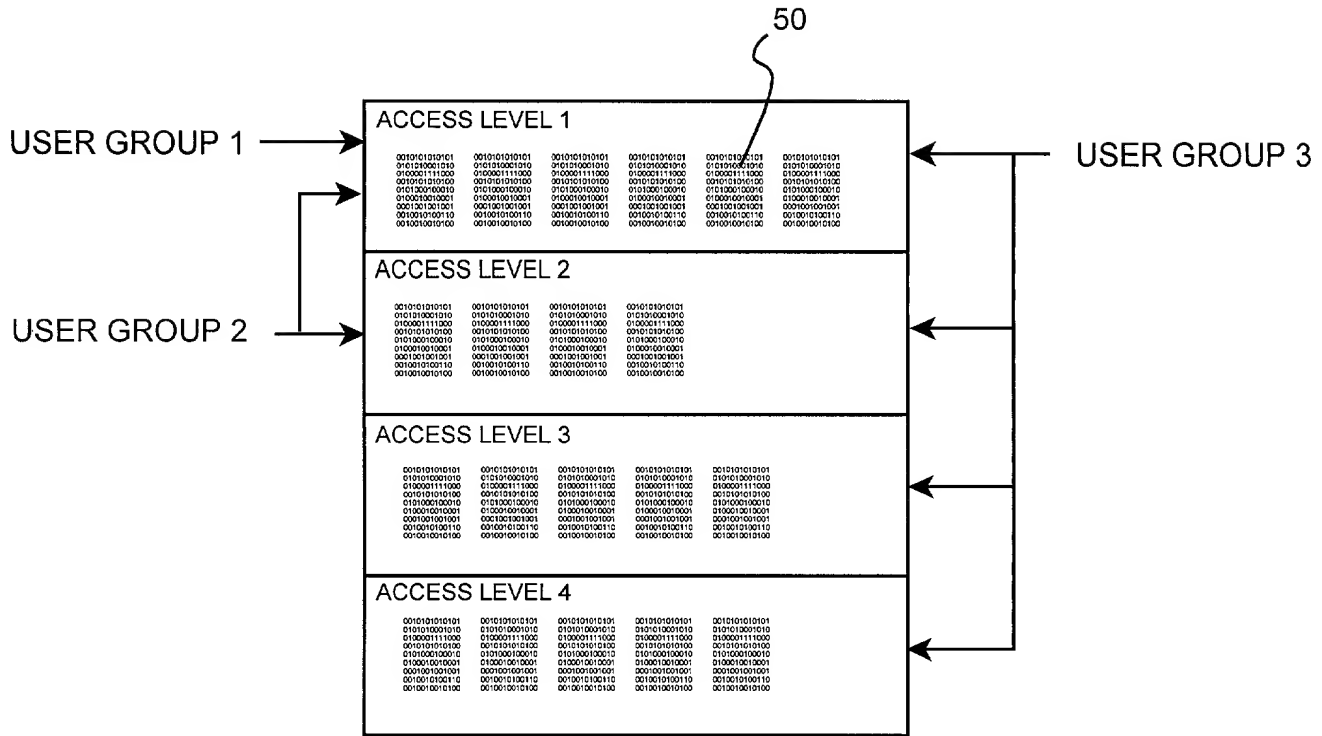
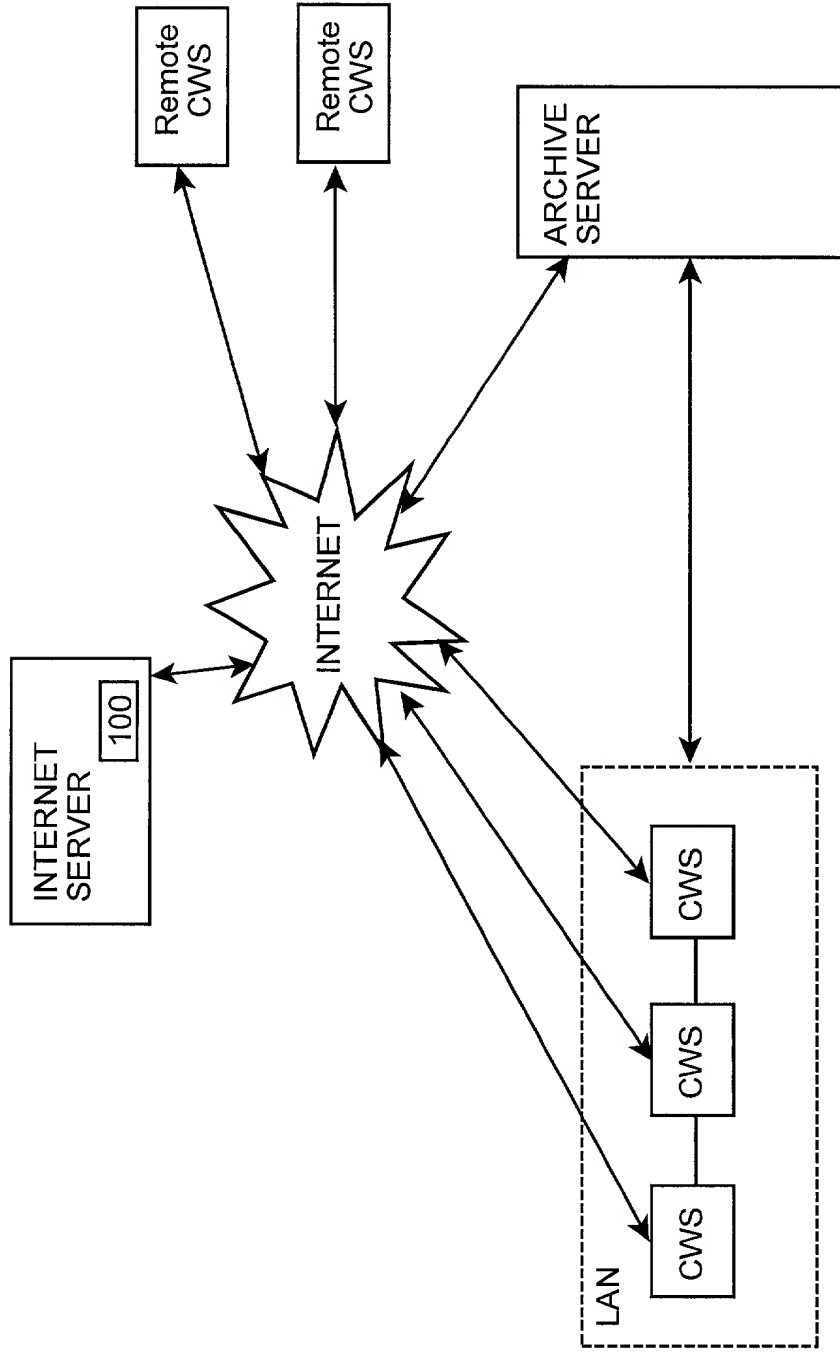


FIG. 5



*FIG. 6*

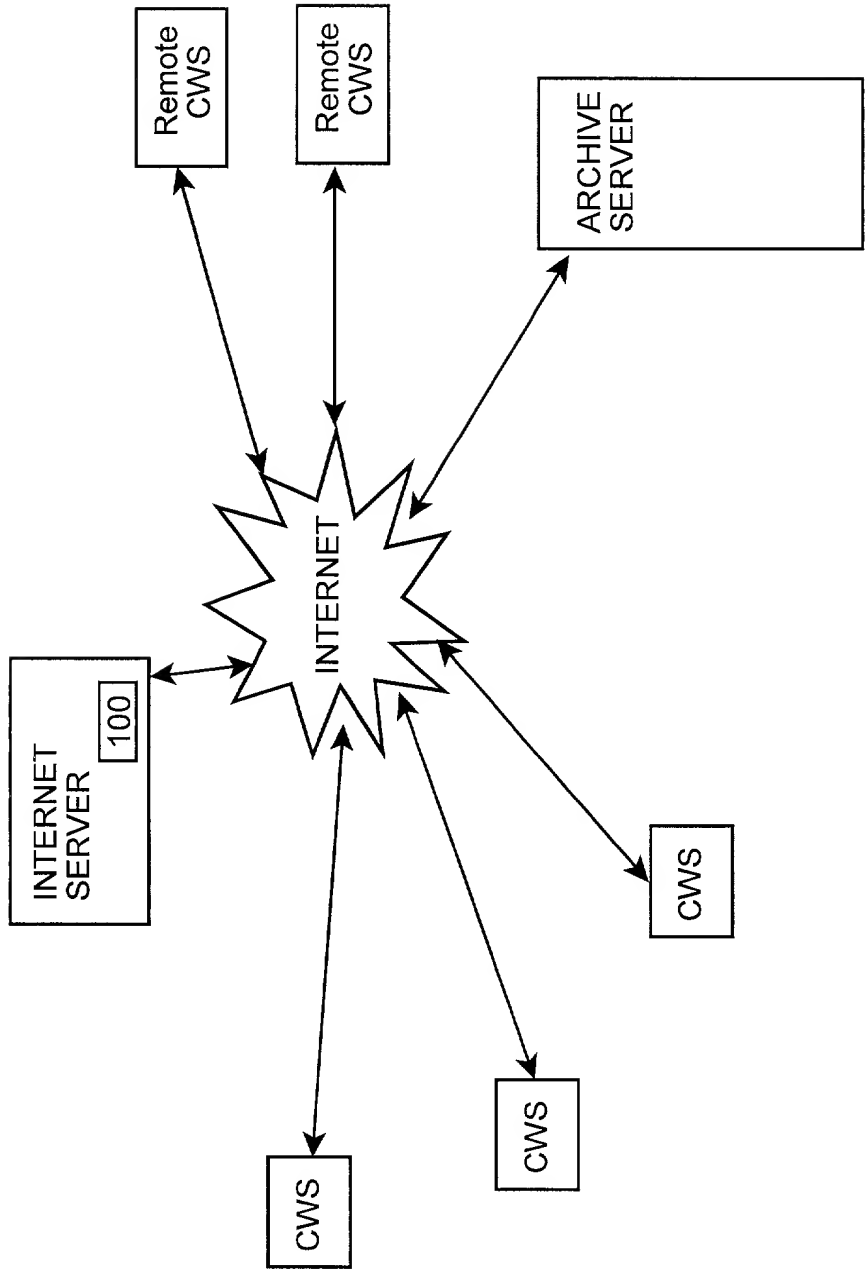


FIG. 7

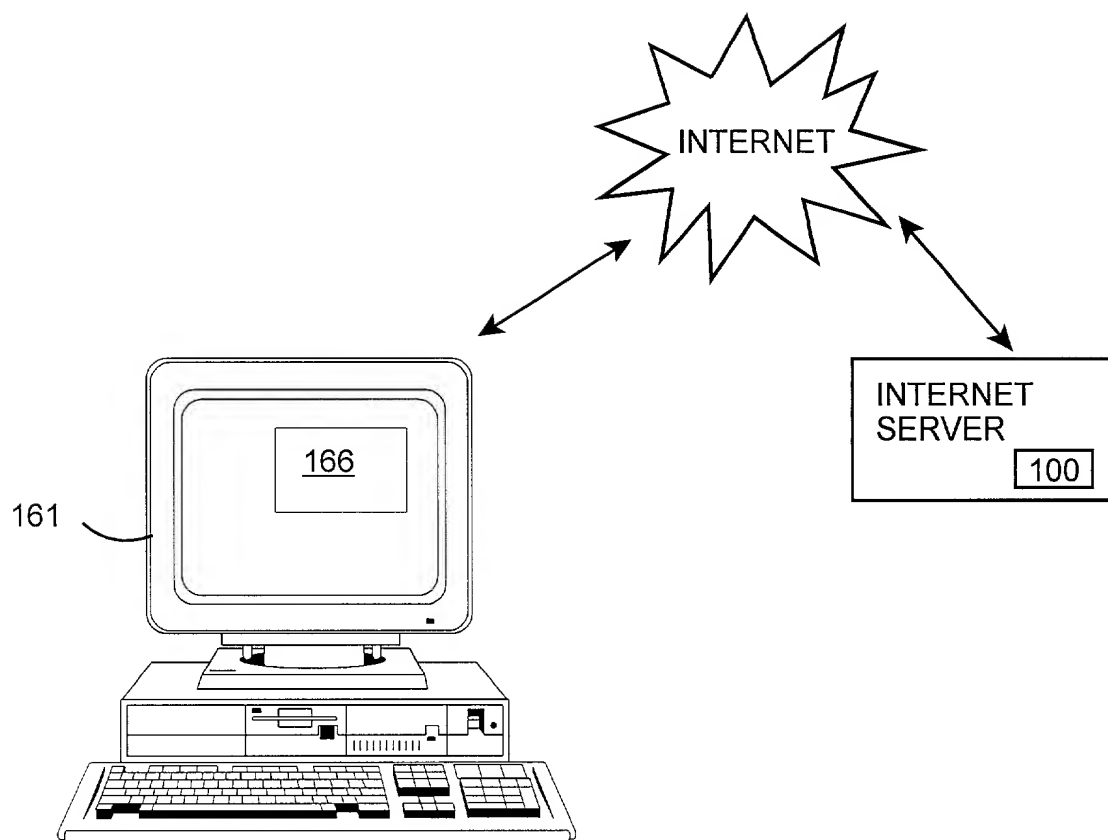


FIG. 8